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Approved For Release 2906 03/10 + 614-RDP80B01495R000700110024-0

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

10 MAY 1974

DDI-1427-74

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Mr. Andrew W. Marshall Director, Net Assessment Office of the Secretary of Defense Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Andy:

has forwarded your letter of 22 April concerning the Project 186 Study. I am pleased to learn that you feel CIA's
participation has been very helpful, and I consider this a commendation
services to work on a research paper on the Soviet military per surface.
which we had to delay while he was working on Project 186.

I agree that Phase I of the Study has brought to light some interesting hypotheses about ground force asymmetries which require fuller examination and that the tactical air relationship will need to be looked at in detail in Phase II. Your request for a full-time man on the tactical air problem presents us with some problems, however.

First is the fact that we only have four analysts now working on that subject, and they are all fully occupied with the MBFR data base, a task that will continue for some time.

Second, I am somewhat puzzled by the part of your letter which describes your concept of what a CIA analyst would do on Phase II-"generally participate in the working group's activity... [and] ... report to the working group chairman and get his assignments from him."
If this means that we would lose control of our man and that he could be assigned to work on matters not directly concerned with Soviet forces, I cannot accept this concept. Specifically, I would like to limit our participation to the foreign aspects of the problem and not to have our man get directly involved in working on the US side.

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Because of these two problems and because your letter gives me no understanding of how long you expect this Phase II to last, I suggest that we discuss this more fully so that I will have a better basis for making my decision.

	Sincerely,
Ι	Edward W. Proctor Deputy Director for Intelligence

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